

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 RSC-01

SCI-06 AEC-11 SPM-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02

DRC-01 /263 W

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R 241735Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2778
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 08322

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XA, XB, XR, YO, RO, MT, UN, GW

SUBJECT: UNGA SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION -- STEAMROLLER
TACTICS

REF: STATE 104050

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTRY UN AFFAIRS
EXPERT DITTMANN TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES RAISED IN
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REFTEL. IN HIS PRESENTATION EMBOFF DREW ON THE EXAMPLES PRESENTED IN REFTEL TO STRESS USG CONCERN THAT THE USE OF AUTOMATIC MAJORITIES BY THE GROUP OF 77 THREATENS TO JEOPARDIZE THE EFFECTIVE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS. HE ALSO STRESSED OUR VIEW THAT IT IS NEITHER LEGAL NOR PROPER TO DENY A VOTE ONCE IT HAS BEEN REQUESTED IN THE UNGA. EMBOFF ASKED DITTMANN FOR HIS VIEWS ON STEPS THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MIGHT TAKE TO HEAD OFF THESE STEAMROLLER TACTICS AND TO FACILITATE A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE LDC PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE UN.

2. DITTMANN, WHO HAD ATTENDED THE SPECIAL SESSION, SAID HE AGREED ENTIRELY WITH OUR ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION AND SHARED FULLY OUR CONCERNS WITH ONE EXCEPTION. HE CONSIDERS THE PRINCIPLE THAT A VOTE BE CALLED AT ANY MEMBER'S REQUEST SO INVOLABLE THAT HE SAW NO DANGER THAT THE LDCS COULD HAVE PREVENTED

VOTE NO MATTER WHAT THEY MIGHT HAVE THREATENED.

3. WITH REGARD TO FUTURE TACTICS, DITTMANN MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS. FIRST, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MUST COORDINATE THEIR POSITIONS BETTER IN FUTURE UN MEETINGS. SECOND, HE FELT THAT ABSENCE OF STRONG EFFECTIVE US LEADERSHIP AT THE SPECIAL SESSION CONTRIBUTED TO A WEAKENING OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' POSITION. AS AN EXAMPLE HE NOTED THAT THE EC HAD AGREED TO OPPOSE THE COMBINATION OF THE ACTION PROGRAM AND THE SPECIAL MEASURES INTO ONE RESOLUTION. HOWEVER THE STEAMROLLER TACTICS OVERCAME THIS OPPOSITION. HE SAID THAT A CLEARER US ATTITUDE AND LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE WOULD HAVE HELPED REINFORCE THE EC OPPOSITION. AS A THIRD POINT DITTMANN SAID HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE LDCS COULD BE PERSUADED TO ADOPT A MORE POSITIVE APPROACH. HE SAID THE FRG WOULD TRY, HOWEVER, VIA HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS WITH LDC LEADERS TO URGE A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH AND TO POINT OUT THE LINKAGE BETWEEN DC-LDC RELATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AND THE DC-LDC AID AND TRADE RELATIONSHIPS. IN THIS REGARD HE NOTED THAT
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CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT INTENDS TO RAISE THIS ISSUE DURING THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF MARSHALL TITO.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 08322

4. FOREIGN MINISTRY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HERMES HAD ALSO TOUCHED ON THIS SUBJECT DURING THE RECENT VISIT OF PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT FLANIGAN. HERMES WAS CRITICAL OF THE US FOR GOING ALONG WITH THE RESOLUTION AND ACTION PROGRAM. HE SAID THE US RESERVATIONS DID NOT TAKE AWAY FROM THE FACT OF US ACCEPTANCE OF THE RESOLUTION AND THAT THE LDCS WILL BE "WAVING THIS
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RESOLUTION UNDER OUR NOSES FOR YEARS." HERMES SAID THE LDCS' ACTIONS REPRESENT A REAL THREAT TO THE DCS AND HE FELT THAT THE DCS SHOULD NOT SIT IDLY BY IN THE FACE OF THIS THREAT. HE CHARACTERIZED THE COORDINATION IN NEW YORK AS "AWFUL". HE SAID THE PROBLEM IS "THAT BLEEDING HEARTS WILL NOT LET THE DC GOVERNMENTS DO WHAT IS NECESSARY."

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: THESE REMARKS REPRESENT THE VIEWS FROM THE ECONOMIC SIDE OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND, CONSEQUENTLY, MAY BE MODIFIED IN THE PROCESS OF INTRA--GOVERNMENTAL POLICY FORMULATION. NEVERTHELESS IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE FRG PERCEIVES A STRONG COMMONALITY OF INTERESTS IN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE US IN FORMULATING NEW POLICY APPROACHES IN DC-LDC RELATIONS. IT ALSO APPEARS THAT THE FRG WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO US INITIATIVES IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THESE POLICIES.
HILLENBRAND

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